

## MEMORANDUM re CM/ECF FILING IN GUIDANT MDL 1708

### TO ALL COUNSEL in GUIDANT MATTERS

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#### CM/ECF stands for Case Management, Electronic Case Files

Before attempting electronic filing in these matters, please take time to read the U.S. District Court, District of Minnesota's Electronic Case Filing Civil ECF User's Manual and Civil ECF Procedures Guide posted on the U.S. District Court of Minnesota's website (<http://www.mnd.uscourts.gov/>). Once the website is accessed (<http://www.mnd.uscourts.gov/>), click on "**Electronic Case Filing**" on the left-hand side of the home page. Please review the User's Manual and Procedures Guide before filing a document. Please feel free to call the ECF helpdesk if you have questions (612-664-5155). Please make certain that the attorney filing the document(s) has seen and approved of the document(s) before undertaking filing as you are using the attorney's bar number, login and password to file.

#### ➤ **Obtaining an ECF Login Name and Password**

The Court's main website contains information on how to register for an ECF login and password. After accessing the website, click on "Registration form for e-filing-MDL attorneys" located in the Forms link on the left-hand side. To access the court's live ECF website, select Live ECF Link on the left-hand side of the Court's home page. Adding a second (or third) e-mail address may be done at the time of registration by listing the additional e-mail address(es) on the "additional e-mail" line on the original registration form. Under "Electronic Case Filing," there are directions as to how to add a secondary e-mail address if you are already registered.

- A separate PACER (Public Access to Court Electronic Records) login and password is necessary. It is likely that you, or your firm, already has a PACER account. If not, a PACER account can be established by contacting:

PACER SERVICE CENTER  
P.O. Box 780549  
San Antonio, TX 78278  
(800) 676-6856  
<http://pacer.psc.uscourts.gov/>

- **IMPORTANT NOTE:** The court's ECF system gets bogged down with the many documents being uploaded, especially on Friday afternoons. It is suggested that you begin early (if you have many attachments you may want to begin by **11:30 a.m., Central Time**. If it is a simple filing without attachments, you can begin as late as 2:00 p.m., CT). If there are problems encountered, beginning early will help ensure that your filing will be timely. If you have technical problems, please contact the Court's Help Desk.\*

- Please refer to Pretrial Order No. 2 filed in MD 1708 for electronic filing questions. In Section A. Master Docket and File., the Master Docket is set up with the following parties: Plaintiffs' Lead Counsel, Plaintiffs' Liaison Counsel, Defendants' Lead Counsel and Defendants' Liaison Counsel. These parties will appear on the docket report. Defendants and plaintiffs from the other cases will be added as MDL-Notice Only party types, but will not appear on the docket report. All parties can be queried by selecting the Party when using CM/ECF Query. When filing documents in the Master Docket, select the appropriate party. If the filer is a member of the Plaintiffs' Liaison Counsel, select Plaintiffs' Liaison Counsel, for example. If the filer is a plaintiff in one of the individual cases, select the appropriate party, but note that the party type in the Master Docket case will be MDL-Notice Only. In addition, all parties must file a Notice of Appearance in the Master Docket after their initial filing in an individual case. Also see section D. Address, Number of Copies and Electronic Filing. for specific instructions. When filing documents relating to a particular case or cases, the documents shall be filed on the ECF system under both the Master Docket and the particular case(s).
- All documents filed in the USDC's CM/ECF must be in "PDF" format (.pdf). The most widely used program that can convert from Word and/or Word Perfect to .pdf, is Acrobat. If you do not know how to change a document from Word to .pdf and move it to your export file, ask your Help Desk for assistance or our website for assistance.
- Each filing/upload of documents **cannot** be larger than **2MB**. If a document or attachments exceed 2MB, divide it/them into appropriate amounts and use page numbers for each section and file as separate attachments. (E.g.: File Attachment A, part 1 of 3, pp. 1 – 50; then file as separate attachment, Attachment A, part 2 of 3, pp. 51- 100; and also file as separate attachment, Attachment A, part 3 of 3, pp. 101 – 149.) When you create your Word/WP document in preparation to file it and/or when you convert it to a .pdf, your computer can show the size of the document/PDF.
- After e-filing your document(s), if appropriate, e-mail the judge the proposed order(s) only. **Proposed orders must be converted to WordPerfect ("WP") or Word format prior to sending them to the judge.** DO NOT send other papers to the judge's e-mail address. Reference the case or cases in the subject line and body of the e-mail if it is only a few cases. If the proposed order refers to all cases, state so. If the filing relates to many, but not all cases, put a list of cases to which the proposed order applies in the text of the e-mail and the moving party(ies)'s name(s) for reference. The email address is [frank\\_chambers@mnd.uscourts.gov](mailto:frank_chambers@mnd.uscourts.gov).
- After you complete your filing and obtain your proof of filing page, please make certain you **logout** of the ECF system.
- Note: Do not be alarmed if you see "CASE CLOSED" on an e-mail docket distribution from the court. It is only an internal matter for the court and does not affect the current docket in that case.

\*If you encounter problems, please call **Court's Help Desk line 1-866-325-4975**. If you reach a voice mailbox, leave a clear message including your name and telephone number. If you cannot complete your filing electronically, please see section L. Technical Failure in the Civil ECF Procedures Guide.

If you inadvertently file a document in the *wrong case*, please refer to Section L. Correcting Docket Entries on page 20 of the Court's Civil ECF Procedures manual. However, if your *document* is wrong but filed in the correct case, you will have to file an amended version of your document.

New complaints, summonses & civil cover sheets cannot be filed and served using CM/ECF at this time, but they can be e-mailed to the clerk for processing and posting to CM/ECF. The email address for new cases is [newcases@mnd.uscourts.gov](mailto:newcases@mnd.uscourts.gov).

If a filer does not know whether another party is a registered ECF user, they can go onto CM/ECF, select "Utilities," then "Mailing Information for a Case" and enter the case number and the information will appear.

Filing deadline shall be 11:59 p.m. Central Time. If your document goes through after Midnight p.m., it will be considered filed on the following day.

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
DISTRICT OF MINNESOTA  
ELECTRONIC FILING REGISTRATION FORM FOR MDL ATTORNEYS**

This form is used by attorneys in MDL matters to register for an account on the District of Minnesota Electronic Filing System (ECF). Registered attorneys will have privileges to electronically submit documents and to receive electronic service of filings. By registering, attorneys consent to receiving electronic notice of filings through ECF. Only attorneys may register for an ECF account. The following information is required for registration:

**PLEASE TYPE**

Mr./Mrs./MS. (circle one)

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Middle Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ If appropriate, circle one: Senior /Junior /II /III

Federal/State Court admission (what state): \_\_\_\_\_ Bar ID Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Firm Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Firm Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Voice Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_ Fax Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Internet Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

MDL action - indicate case number: \_\_\_\_\_

**By submitting this registration form, the undersigned agrees to abide by all Court rules, orders and policies and procedures governing the use of the electronic filing system. The undersigned also consents to receiving notice of filings pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 5(b) and 77(d) through the Court's electronic filing system. The combination of user ID and password will serve as the signature of the attorney filing the documents. Attorneys must protect the security of their passwords and immediately notify the court if they learn that their password has been compromised.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Signature of Attorney Registrant**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

E-mail the completed form to: [ecfhelpdesk@mnd.uscourts.gov](mailto:ecfhelpdesk@mnd.uscourts.gov) with Subject line: Attention: ECF Registration  
– MDL